Introduced by Assembly Member Saldana

February 11, 2010

An act to amend Section 9001 of the Elections Code, relating to initiatives.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1832, as introduced, Saldana. Initiative measures: filing fee.

Existing law requires the proponent of an initiative measure, prior to circulating the initiative petition for signatures, to submit the text of the proposed initiative measure to the Attorney General for preparation of a circulating title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the measure. Existing law further requires the proponent, at the time of submitting the text of the proposed measure to the Attorney General, to pay a fee of \$200, which is placed in a trust fund and refunded to the proponent if the measure qualifies for the ballot within 2 years from the date the summary is furnished to the proponent. If the measure does not qualify within that period, the fee is paid into the General Fund.

This bill would increase the amount of the fee to \$500 beginning in 2011, \$1,000 beginning in 2013, \$1,500 beginning in 2015, and \$2,000 beginning in 2017.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 9001 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

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9001. (a) Prior to the circulation of any initiative or referendum petition for signatures, the text of the proposed measure shall be submitted to the Attorney General with a written request that a circulating title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure be prepared. The electors presenting the request shall be known as the "proponents." The Attorney General shall preserve the written request until after the next general election.

- (b) Each and every proponent of any proposed initiative measure shall, at the time of submitting the text of the proposed measure, provide both of the following:
- (1) An original signed certification stating that "I, (insert name), declare under penalty of perjury that I am a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age or older, and a resident of (insert county), California."
 - (2) Public contact information.
- (c) (1) The proponents of any initiative measure, at the time of submitting the text of the proposed measure to the Attorney General, shall pay a fee of two hundred dollars (\$200), which to the Attorney General in accordance with the following schedule:
 - (A) Five hundred dollars (\$500), beginning January 1, 2011.
 - (B) One thousand dollars (\$1,000), beginning January 1, 2013.
- (C) One thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500), beginning January 1, 2015.
 - (D) Two thousand dollars (\$2,000), beginning January 1, 2017.
- (2) A fee received pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be placed in a trust fund in the office of the Treasurer and refunded to the proponents if the measure qualifies for the ballot within two years from the date the summary is furnished to the proponents. If the measure does not qualify within that period, the fee shall be immediately paid into the General Fund of the state.
- (d) All referenda and proposed initiative measures must be submitted to the Attorney General's Initiative Coordinator located in the Sacramento Attorney General's Office via U.S. United States Postal Service, alternative mail service, or personal delivery. Only printed documents will be accepted; ; facsimile or e-mail delivery will not be accepted.

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1 (e) The Attorney General's office shall not deem a request for 2 a circulating title and summary submitted until all of the 3 requirements of this section are met.